

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AGENDA FOR ECONOMIC EXPERTS MEETING

1. ON APRIL 19, TREASURY UNDER SECRETARY SOLOMON
FORWARDED TO SOVIET TRADE REPRESENTATIVE MKRTUMOV A
PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS
MEETING WHICH WE HOPE TO HOLD ON JUNE 6-7, PRIOR
TO THE MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION.

2. PROPOSED AGENDA, AND DETAILED COMMENTS (ALSO SENT
TO MKRTUMOV), ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. AGENDA:

I. CURRENT STATUS AND OUTLOOK FOR THE US AND SOVIET
ECONOMIES

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II. ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC SECTORS

1. PRIORITY SECTORS OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE
USSR THROUGH 1980 AND IN THE FOLLOWING DECADE,
EMPHASIZING SPECIFIC PROJECTS PROVIDED FOR IN THE
CURRENT FIVE-YEAR PLAN WHICH COULD INVOLVE WESTERN
PARTICIPATION.

2. US GROWTH SECTORS AND MAJOR IMPORT NEEDS THROUGH 1980 AND IN THE FOLLOWING DECADE.

III. PROGRAM FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR THE COMING YEAR.

IV. OTHER.

B. COMMENTS:

ITEM I

WE SUGGEST THAT BOTH SIDES GIVE PRESENTATIONS ON THE CURRENT STATUS AND OUTLOOK FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE ECONOMIES. ESSENTIALLY THIS WOULD BE A PRESENTATION OF ECONOMIC TRENDS, INCLUDING AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND FOREIGN TRADE AND PAYMENTS, FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSION OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED. TO ALLOW FOR A MORE PRODUCTIVE SESSION, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT PAPERS ON THIS TOPIC BE EXCHANGED IN ADVANCE OF THE EXPERTS MEETING, AND THAT THE PRESENTATIONS AT THE SESSION BE LIMITED TO SUMMARIES.

ITEM II

WE PROPOSE THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH COUNTRIES PROVIDE ANALYSES OF IMPORTANT SECTORS IN THEIR ECONOMIES. WE HAVE IN MIND, ON THE SOVIET SIDE, A DISCUSSION OF PRIORITY SECTORS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN THE CURRENT FIVE-YEAR PLAN, AS WELL AS IN THE PERIOD THROUGH 1990. SPECIFICALLY, THE US GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THOSE SOVIET PROJECTS WHICH COULD INVOLVE WESTERN PARTICIPATION. UNDER THIS SAME AGENDA ITEM THE US SIDE COULD PROVIDE THE SOVIET UNION WITH AN ANALYSIS OF MAJOR US IMPORT NEEDS FOR THE SAME PERIODS.

IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING, WE WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT MORE SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO THIS AGENDA ITEM AND WOULD HOPE THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WILL DO THE SAME.

ITEM III

ITEM III CONCERNS THE PROGRAM OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR THE COMING YEAR. THE UNITED STATES WISHES TO CONTINUE THIS IMPORTANT PROGRAM OF EXCHANGING STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF OUR

ECONOMIES. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT AN EXCHANGE OF THIS INFORMATION AGAIN BE CARRIED OUT AT YEAR-END 1977 AND MID-YEAR 1978. THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO PROPOSE A LIST OF THE KINDS OF INFORMATION IT WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE. IN MAKING THIS REQUEST WE WOULD ENCOURAGE THE SOVIET UNION TO ASK FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION IT WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE IN RETURN.

THE UNITED STATES WOULD ALSO LIKE TO PROPOSE THAT BOTH SIDES HOLD A SEMINAR LATER THIS YEAR ON THE FINANCING OF EAST-WEST TRADE. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ALTERNATIVE OR ADDITIONAL SEMINAR THEMES OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

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